WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for treating sympathetically maintained chronic pain, the method comprising:

administering a therapeutically effective dose of a botulinum toxin type A, B, C₁, D, E, F or G to a sympathetic ganglion of a human patient, thereby achieving a sympathetic block for an extended period of time.

- 2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A.
- 3. The method according to Claim 2, wherein said effective dose of botulinum toxin is from about 1 to 300 units.
- 4. The method according to Claim 3, wherein said sympathetically maintained chronic pain is of the lower extremities, and said block is of the lumbar splanchnic nerves.
- 5. The method according to Claim 3, wherein said sympathetically maintained chronic pain is of the upper extremities, and said block is of the inferior, middle or superior cervical sympathetic ganglion.
- 6. The method according to Claim 3, wherein said sympathetic ganglion is one or more of the superior cervical ganglia; middle superior cervical ganglion; vertebral ganglion; cervicothoracic (stellate) ganglion; sympathetic trunk; thoracic sympathetic ganglion; aorticorenal ganglion; lumbar sympathetic ganglion; celiac ganglion; superior mesenteric ganglion; inferior mesenteric ganglion; superior and inferior hypogastric plexus; and ganglion impar.
- 7. The method according to Claim 3, wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

identifying the chronic pain as being mediated by the sympathetic nervous system by administering a local anesthetic as a sympathetic block;

wherein a cessation of at least about 50% of the perceived pain for a short period of time following said sympathetic block is indicative of sympathetically maintained pain.

8. A method for treating cardiovascular conditions, the method comprising: administering a therapeutically effective dose of a botulinum toxin type A, B, C₁, D, E, F or G to a sympathetic ganglion of a human patient, thereby achieving a sympathetic block

for an extended period of time.

- 9. The method according to Claim 8, wherein said cardiovascular condition is selected from the group consisting of retinal artery thrombosis; peripheral vascular disease; coronary artery disease; post prandial ischemia; cerebral vasospasm; coronary vasospasm; Raynaud's Disease, Raynaud's Phenomenon, and vasospasm of the lower extremities.
- 10. The method according to Claim 9, wherein said treatment provides for pain relief in said patient.
- 11. The method according to Claim 9, wherein said botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A.
- 12. The method according to Claim 11, wherein said effective dose of botulinum toxin is from about 1 to 300 units.
- 13. A method of treating a disease with a sympathetic block of the celiac plexus, the method comprising:

administering a therapeutically effective dose of a botulinum toxin type A, B, C₁, D, E, F or G to the celiac plexus of a human patient, thereby achieving a sympathetic block for an extended period of time.

14. The method according to Claim 13, wherein said condition is selected from the group consisting of:

ischemic bowel, cirrhosis, pancreatitis, irritable bowel disease, and interstitial cystitis.

- 15. The method according to Claim 13, wherein said botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A.
- 16. The method according to Claim 15, wherein said effective dose of botulinum toxin is from about 1 to 300 units.